



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **ITO, Keita et al.**

Group Art Unit: 3677

Serial No.: 09/901,566

Examiner: 3677

Filed: July 11, 2001

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 4812

For: **SEAL STRUCTURE IN ENGINE BODY**

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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.111

**GROUP 3600**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

March 20, 2003

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated **December 20, 2002**, finally rejecting claim 1, the only claim currently pending in the above-identified patent application, please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1. (AMENDED) A seal structure in an engine body, comprising:

a crankcase which has a crank chamber and which is coupled to a lower end face of a cylinder block having a cylinder bore, the crankcase being comprised of first and second case halves having oppositely facing joint surfaces coupled to each other in a plane extending perpendicular to the lower end face of said cylinder block, wherein one of the joint surfaces of said first and second case halves includes a U-shaped seal groove